**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-8   (Canceled).

9.   (Currently Amended)   In a computer system which has a first computer, a second computer connected to said first computer via a communication line~~network~~, a storage apparatus connected to said second computer via a fixed length access interface and storing data in a fixed-length block format used by said second computer, a method for processing data stored in said storage apparatus to said first computer comprising the steps of:

requesting, from said first computer to said second computer via said communication line ~~network~~, to send data stored in said storage apparatus in said fixed-length block format to said first computer via the communication line;

reading by using said second computer, in response to said request, data in said fixed-length block format from said storage apparatus via said fixed length access interface and transferring by using said second computer said read data

in said fixed length block format to said first computer via

the communication line~~network, by using said second computer~~;

converting, in said first computer, said transferred

data in said fixed-length block format to data in variable-

length block format; and

processing said converted data in said first

computer.


10.    (Previously Presented)   A method as described in

claim 9~~1~~, said method further comprising the step of:

making volume information for accessing data stored

in said storage apparatus, in said first computer.


11.    (Previously Presented)   A method as described in

claim 10, wherein said step for making said volume information

comprises a step for storing said volume information in a

predetermined region formed in a main memory of said first

computer.


12.    (Currently Amended)   A method as described in claim

10, wherein said volume information ~~which~~ includes information

of a starting position and an ending position of data in~~is~~

said fixed-length block format in said storage apparatus.


13.   (Currently Amended)   A computer in a variable-length

block format comprising:

a communication unit to communicate <u>through a</u>

<u>communication line </u>with another computer which is connected to

a storage apparatus,

a processor and,

a memory,

wherein said processor <u>sends a </u>request~~s~~ <u>through said</u>

<u>communication unit to </u>said another computer to <u>read </u>~~send~~ data

stored in said storage apparatus in fixed-length block format

~~through said communication unit~~, receives said <u>read </u>data from

said another computer through said communication unit, <u>and</u>

converts said data to data in variable-length block format,

and processes said converted data.


14.   (Previously Presented)   A computer as described in

claim 13, wherein said processor makes volume information for

accessing data stored in said storage apparatus.

15.    (Previously Presented)   A computer as described in claim 14, wherein said processor stores said volume information in a predetermined region formed in a main memory of said first computer.

16.    (Currently Amended)   A computer as described in claim 14, wherein said volume information ~~which~~ includes information of a starting position and an ending position of data in ~~is~~ said fixed-length block format in said storage apparatus.

17.    (Currently Amended)   A system comprising:

a first computer,

a second computer connected to said first computer through a communication line ~~network~~,

a storage apparatus storing data in a fixed-length block format connected to said second computer via a fixed length access interface,

wherein said first computer requests said second computer to send data stored in said storage apparatus <u>via said communication line</u>,

wherein said second computer reads said data stored in said storage apparatus via said fixed length access interface and transfers said data to said first computer via <u>said communication line</u> ~~network~~ based on said request, and

wherein said first computer receives said transferred data, converts said received data to a variable-length block format, and processes said converted data.

18.    (Previously Presented)   A computer as described in claim 17, wherein said processor makes volume information for accessing data stored in said storage apparatus.

19.    (Previously Presented)   A computer as described in clam 18, wherein said processor stores said volume information in a predetermined region formed in a main memory of said first computer.

20.    (Currently Amended)    A computer as described in claim 18, wherein said volume information ~~which~~ includes information of a starting position and an ending position of data in~~is~~ said fixed-length block format in said storage apparatus.

21.    (New)    A method as described in claim 10, including a second storage apparatus connected to said first computer, further comprising the steps of:

checking whether data to be read is stored in the storage apparatus or not based on said volume information by using said first computer; and

reading data from said second storage apparatus if the data to be read is not stored in said storage apparatus by said first computer.

22.    (New)    A method as described in claim 21, wherein said second storage apparatus is connected to said second computer, and

wherein data, read by said first computer, is stored in said second storage apparatus by said second computer.

23.  (New)  A system according to claim 18, wherein said first computer checks whether data to be read is stored in the storage apparatus or not based on said volume information; and

wherein said first computer reads data from said second storage apparatus if the data to be read is not stored in said storage apparatus.

24.  (New)  A system according to claim 23,

wherein said second storage apparatus is connected to said second computer, and

wherein data, read by said first computer, is stored in said second storage apparatus by said second computer.